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" (c) The number of persons employed in non-gazetted services in 1938–39 and in 1944–45 is as follows :—

| | 1938–39. | 1944–45. |
|---|---|---|
| I. Subordinate, ministerial and inferior services excluding village establishments. | 92,108 | 144,663 |
| II. Village establishments .. .. .. | 108,237 | 107,776 |
| Total .. | 200,345 | 252,439 |

" (d) The money spent on non-gazetted services (on salaries) in 1938–39 and in 1944–45 is as follows :—

| | 1938–39. RS. LAKHS. | 1944–45. RS. LAKHS. |
|---|---|---|
| I. Subordinate, ministerial and inferior services excluding village establishments. | 422·55 | 565·19 |
| II. Village establishments .. .. .. | 115·33 | 123·24 |
| Total .. | 537·88 | 688·43 |

" (e) The extra money spent on both the services in 1944–45 was Rs. 149·89 lakhs, the extra men employed being 52,793."

(The Hon. the Premier reads out the answer to the question.)

MR. PRESIDENT :—" If the Hon. Prime Minister has no objection, he can ask some other Hon. Minister to read out the answers."

THE HON. SRI T. PRAKASAM :—" No, Sir. I shall read it myself."

SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAYUDU :—" Will Mr. President kindly have the answer circulated to the Members as it contains very valuable information ? "

MR. PRESIDENT :—" The answer will be printed in the proceedings."

*Supply of articles of diet to the various hospitals in the Province of Madras.*

* 43 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Health and Medicine be pleased to state—

(a) what arrangements exist at present for the supply of articles of diet to the various hospitals in the Province;

(b) whether the question of utilizing co-operative institutions for the purpose has ever been considered ; and

(c) what agency exists in each hospital to ensure that the articles supplied are of the required standard quality?

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THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHY :—" (a) The supply of diet articles to Government hospitals is ordinarily obtained through contractors fixed up as a result of tenders and auction held annually.

" (b) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (c) The quality of supplies made is being tested daily by a medical officer and by senior medical officers who make surprise inspections as frequently as possible. Samples of articles like milk, bread, ghee, oil, butter, etc., are taken from the supplies made by contractors, wherever the heads of institutions feel doubtful about the quality, and are sent to the Government Analyst for test. Penal provisions of the contract agreement are enforced when the quality of articles so tested is found to be below par."

MR. K. O. ANTHONI :—" Will the Hon. Minister for Public Health be pleased to state whether there is any machinery to see that the articles supplied for the patients really go to them ? "

THE HON. MRS. LAKSHMIPATHI :—" Only strict supervision on the part of the medical officers could see to this."

*Workers in the Civil Section of the Hydro-Electric Department, Mettur.*

*44 Q.—SRI P. R. K. SARMA : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) how many workers, men and women, are employed in the Civil section of the Hydro-Electric department at Mettur for repairs and maintenance of buildings ;

(b) what their wages and service conditions are ;

(c) whether the women workers are being paid only three annas per day ;

(d) whether for a day's absence half the amount of Dearness Allowance for the month is denied ;

(e) whether the women workers are refused maternity benefit ;

(f) whether the Government have received any representations for redress of the grievances of the said workers of the Civil section at Mettur ; and

(g) whether any action has been taken or is proposed to be taken ?

THE HON. SRI V. V. GIRI :—" (a) Approximately 18 male workers, 12 women workers and 3 boy workers are employed for repairs and maintenance of buildings.

" (b) The wages of these workers are—

(1) Male worker—Re. 1 to Re. 1–4–0 per day, including dearness allowance.

(2) Female worker—12 annas to 14 annas per day, including dearness allowance.

(3) Boy worker—12 annas to 14 annas per day, including dearness allowance.

" As regards their service conditions, since they are employed casually and on works which are essentially of a seasonal